

**WHEREAS,** Black History Month is an opportunity to share the historical and present contributions of African Americans; and

**WHEREAS,** Black History Month began as "Negro History Week" in February 1926 in the United States as a supplement to the school curriculum, through the work of African American scholar, Dr. Carter G. Woodson. His aim was to encourage a greater awareness and understanding of the African experience and contributions in America, Africa and throughout the world. Later, in the 1960s, the week expanded into Black History Month to commemorate, through community activities, a more balanced and accurate picture of Black history, and is celebrated yearly during the entire month of February, as it coincides with the birthdays of the great black leader Frederick Douglass (February 14) and of Abraham Lincoln (February 12); and

**WHEREAS,** Black History Month has been celebrated in Reno by the Northern Nevada Minority Alliance (NNMA), Soka Gakkai International (SGI) – Nevada, and many other local organizations; and

**WHEREAS,** African Americans have strengthened our Nation by urging reforms, overcoming obstacles, and breaking down barriers. We see the greatness of America in those who have risen above injustice and enriched our society; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Reno recognizes the significant contributions and huge advances African Americans have made, and continue to make, in the community of Reno and the world, in such areas as education, medicine, art, culture, public service, economic development, politics and human rights; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Reno in its continued effort to honor Black History Month and to enhance equity and diversity, will seek to make changes in all its language to replace the word "tolerance" with "acceptance and inclusion," whenever relating to equity and/or diversity; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Reno's Southside Cultural Center Gallery, TMCC Student Union, South Valley Library, Sparks Library and the Washoe County School District will participate in Black History Month and display the NNMA's Black History and Gandhi, King, Ikeda Exhibits during the month of February.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Robert A. Cashell, Sr., Mayor of the City of Reno, do hereby proclaim

# ***FEBRUARY 2006 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH***

In and for the City of Reno, Nevada, and I encourage all citizens to celebrate by participating in their choice of cultural programs and encourage the greater participation of children in programs and activities which highlight the unique contributions of our African American cultural heritage.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Reno, Nevada, to be affixed this eighth day of February 2006.

Robert A. Cashell, Sr., Mayor  
City of Reno

ATTEST:

Lynnette Jones, City Clerk  
City of Reno